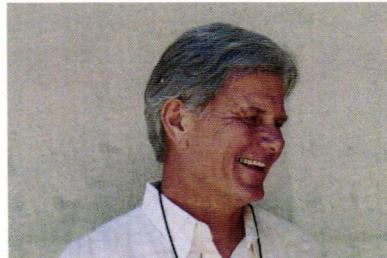




# FORUM

a monthly publication of the las vegas chapter of the american institute of architects



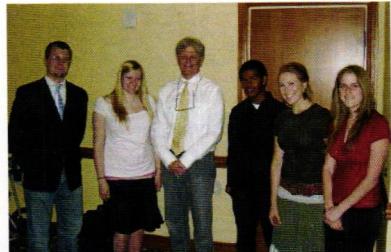
## RECIPIENT OF THE 2009 AIA NEVADA SILVER MEDAL BRAD VAN WOERT, AIA

The highest honor that the Nevada Chapter of the American Institute of Architects can bestow on an individual -- THE SILVER MEDAL is awarded this year to BRAD VAN WOERT, AIA.

Service Award Juror, Bruce Hawtin, FAIA, stated, "There is no greater honor in the Nevada AIA than to be awarded the Silver Medal. It recognizes a lifetime of distinguished service to the profession. Brad has had, and is having, an outstanding and productive career."

With more than 30 years in the architectural business and numerous awards recognizing his expertise, Brad's design work blends both contextual, historic observation with new technologies. His designs are bold in form and literal in functional interpretation. Brad has been a University of Nevada Assistant Professor for 6 years as well as a guest instructor; he has been on historic commissions, UNR Advisory Boards, Sierra Arts Foundation, Reno Rotary, and the City of Reno Ad Hoc Planning and Development Committee, among others.

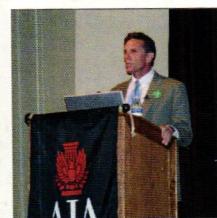
Brad Van Woert, AIA joined Jack Sheehan in 1978 and became a partner in 1980. In 1992 Angela Bigotti, AIA joined SVW Architects and in 1999 became Nevada's first female partner of a major architecture firm. Brad has been the key designer with SVWB since 1978 and President of the firm since 1995.



In 2004 he and a number of peers started the Black Rock Lecture Series, bringing to the Reno Art and Architecture Community approximately 6 to 8 quality speakers a year.

He has been a member of AIA Northern Nevada since 1972, on the Board of Directors 1984 – 1986, AIA Northern Nevada President 1986, AIA Nevada Board of Directors 1985 – 1988, AIA Design Awards Program, Chair and Co-Chair in 1978, '80, '86, '92, '96, AIA Northern Nevada Host Chapter Committee for the Western Mountain Region Annual Conference. In 2007, AIA Northern Nevada Committee for the Annual State Design Conference 2008, an AIA non-paid lobbyist for the 2009 legislative Session and after 23 years finds himself again, President of AIA Northern Nevada.

Congratulations to Brad for this much deserved honor.



### 2009 AIA NEVADA DESIGN CONFERENCE REVIEW

PAGE 2



### 2009 AIA NEVADA SERVICE AWARD WINNERS

PAGE 4



### 2009 AIA NEVADA DESIGN AWARD WINNERS

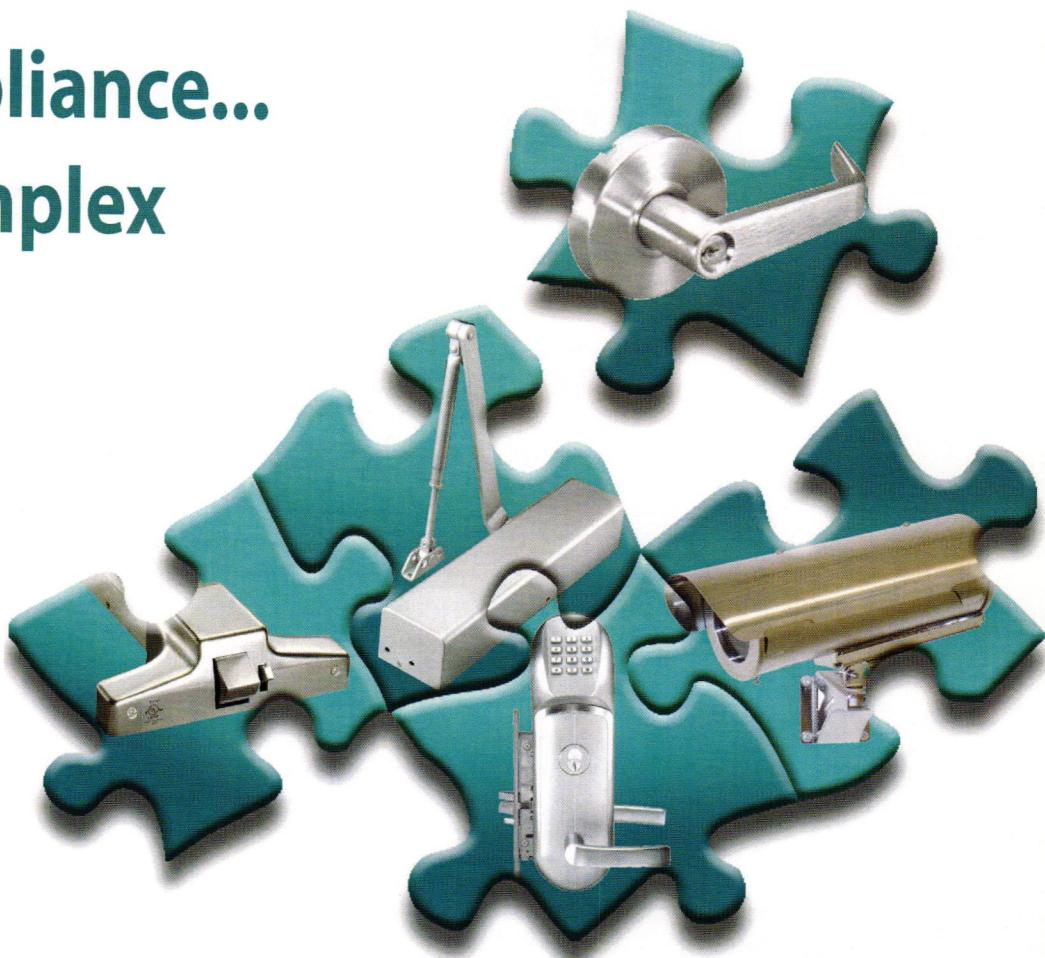
PAGE 5



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**AIA LAS VEGAS  
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE  
SEAN COULTER, AIA**



First off, I would like to thank everyone that presented at the design conference this year. All of the conferences that I attended had copious amounts of information that can be used for years to come. I would also like to thank all of our sponsors, because without them (especially this year) there would have been no way we could have had the design conference, so, thank you very much for your interest in this years' conference. And last, but not least, I want to thank Randy, Kelly and Debi, because without them, I would have had to actually work! But seriously, due to their efforts, the conference went off without a hitch.

For those that attended the Design Conference this past month, you know that there was more information presented than you could shake a stick at! The first two days of seminars went by very quickly as the information presented was interesting and well presented. Friday was the City of Las Vegas charrette, hosted by **STEVE VAN GORP, ASSOC. AIA**. This was an exciting and energy-packed charrette that explored the future sustainable development of the downtown area; but more on that later. The last day, Saturday, was the golf tournament in the morning and the design awards that night, of which, both were exciting events. To top it all off, the weather even cooperated and allowed casual conversation to take place outdoors in the quaint courtyards of the 5th St. School.

The one event that sticks in my mind is the charrette. This was an all-day event with about 125 participants on 9 teams. The day kicked-off with Steve Van Gorp presenting the state of development in the downtown area followed by a very interesting presentation by **DOUG FARR, AIA** - author of Sustainable Urbanism: Urban Design with Nature. Mr. Farr discussed the positive impacts a sustainable approach to design can have on urban planning through the creation and enhancement of walkable communities with the need to build high-performance infrastructure and buildings.



The teams were given from about 10:45 in the morning to 5:00p.m to develop a concept for downtown that embraced the concepts of sustainable urbanism. At 5:00, each team had 5 minutes to present their findings and concepts, and believe it or not; with all of those architects in the room, we almost managed to stay on time! As part of any charrette, there needs to be pertinent information that everyone uses, therefore, I want to thank **ROBERT DORGAN, ASSOC. AIA** and his students that were there. They created, for each team a cd with extensive amounts information on it about downtown (photographs of major intersections, Autocad files of the city, as well as sketch-up models). Each team could use this information to help in their analysis and presentation at the end of the day.

After spending all day developing concepts for a "walkable" downtown, each team presented their design concepts. At the end of all of the presentations, one thing that I found to be very interesting and telling was the similarities between concepts. There were several teams that looked at developing 3rd Street from what will be the new Mob Museum just north of Fremont St. on Stewart, south to Bonneville and beyond to Charleston Ave. As I was sitting there taking in all of the great work that each team developed, I began to realize that what downtown Las Vegas needs is simple, it just needs to take that "next step", whatever it is, it just needs to be started and I feel that we, as architects, should be part of it.

O.K., so I am coming to the end of my article and wanted to say a few last things; I thought the submissions at this years design awards were outstanding (and I'm not even talking about the submissions my office put in!) Also, the caliber of people that submitted for the Service Awards was also outstanding. At this point, I have to give a special shout out to **YISSA RENTERIA, ASSOC. AIA** for winning the Associate Award, congratulations, Yissa!

Now back to the Service Awards, I do have to agree with **BRUCE HAWTIN, FAIA's** comments regarding how many people submitted for the awards (Bruce was the chair for this years Service Awards). He stated that, with the talent we have in this state, we should have many more submissions. So my request would be that next year, we have many more people apply. The design awards program is an event to celebrate what we do as architects and in these times, we need to celebrate whenever and whoever we can.

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Do you know of someone in your office or maybe a colleague who should be a member of AIA Las Vegas? Tell them that they can join the AIA Las Vegas Chapter now and get a full 1 year + 3 months of AIA membership at a special reduced rate. If they join in October 2009 they receive full benefits from the day they join until December 31, 2010 and only pay for one year (2010 fees). This is a special invitation for licensed architects, associates and affiliated professionals in the industry who practice in Nevada and Las Vegas. For more information call AIA Las Vegas at 702.895.0936.



## COME TASTE THE WINE ....

AIA Las Vegas and the Nevada Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (NASLA) will host a Wine Tasting and Art Auction at 6:00PM on Friday, October 23rd in the auditorium of the Historic Fifth Street School. The event is a joint fund-raiser for AIA and NASLA and will feature a silent-auction of artwork created by architects and landscape architects, raffle items, wine tasting and light hors d'oeuvres. Paintings, photographic art, sculpture, jewelry... whatever you have created and wish to donate for the silent auction is welcome. To donate a piece of artwork please contact Helen Stone, Executive Director NASLA and provide her with the following information: Contact Name and Address; Email Address; Information on the artwork being donated, Suggested minimum bid price for the auction and Information on the Artist.

Be on the lookout for the flyer! To RSVP for the Wine Tasting go to the AIA Las Vegas website – [www.aialasvegas.org](http://www.aialasvegas.org).



## AIA LAS VEGAS NOW HAS A FACEBOOK PAGE

We have created a new way to keep our members and the public informed with all we have going on at AIA Las Vegas. Please take a moment to visit our Facebook page and click to become a fan. Once you have added us to your site, you will receive posts regarding events, news and updates. We have also uploaded several event photos (**including images from the 2009 AIA Nevada Design Conference**) and plan on creating a "discussion board" which will allow you to add your comments regarding current events and issues that affect the design community.

If you do not currently have a Facebook page, why not take a few moments and sign up! It is fast, easy and a great way to communicate with co-workers, groups and even old high school friends...OK, maybe that is too much communicating for you. But you get to control who you reach out to and who gets to hear from you. Go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) to sign up. You can put as much (or as little) info on your site as you wish.



## EMERGING PROFESSIONALS NEWS

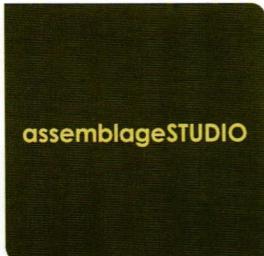
## Join the AIA's Facebook Young Designers Challenge

The AIA is hosting its first ever design competition on Facebook—the AIA Facebook Young Designers Challenge. The competition is targeting emerging professionals, and is open to all AIAS members, all Assoc. AIA members, and all AIA young architect members. (The AIA defines young architects as being licensed 10 years or fewer.)

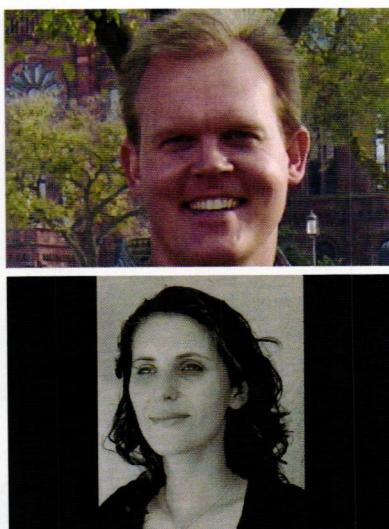
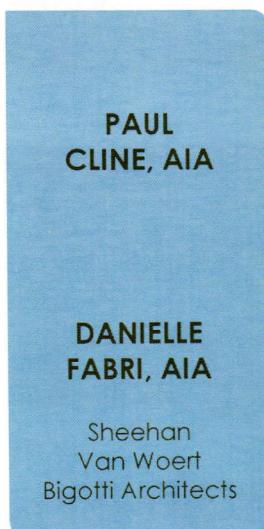
The AIA is asking designers to submit unbuilt building projects that address America's most pressing design needs for the 21st century. This can include: sustainability, public infrastructure, affordable housing, retrofitting suburbs and other resource-intensive built environments, urban farming, and rehabilitating dilapidated urban cores. This requirement is intentionally flexible. The most important factor is that each design offer an innovative solution to a concrete and unsolved problem. Voting for the winner is open to everyone: participants, non-participants, AIA members, non-members, the general public, etc. The one limitation is that entrants cannot vote for their own projects. All entrants must explain how their project addresses a pressing American design need in a written project brief of no more than 500 words. Additionally, designers must submit up to four images of their project. The competition closes on December 11 for voting, and the winning designer will be announced in AIArchitect with a feature article in January. Visit the AIA's design competition Facebook Event page for details.

## 2009 aia nevada distinguished service award winners

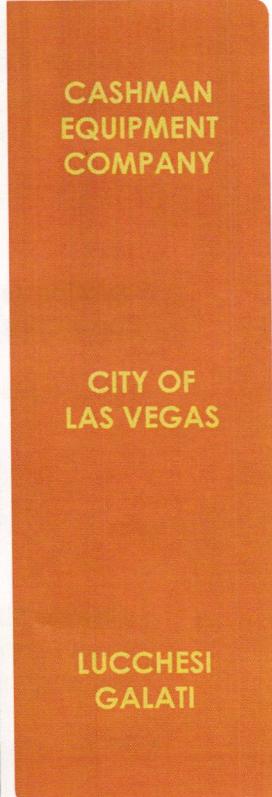
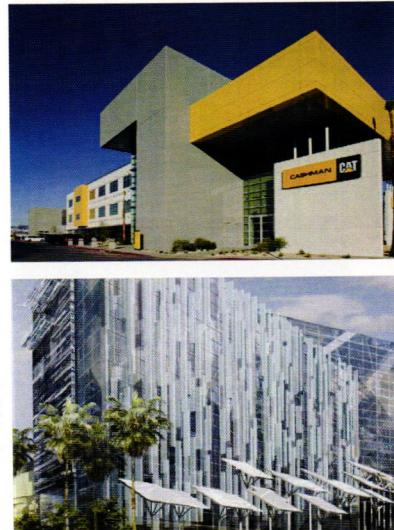
### Firm award



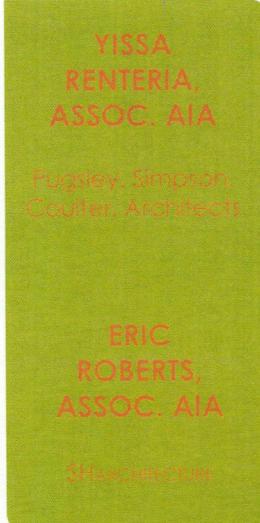
### young architect award



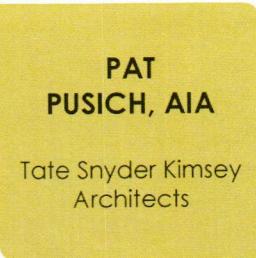
### sustainable practice award



### associate member award



### service award



### AIA NEVADA LIVABLE COMMUNITY AWARD

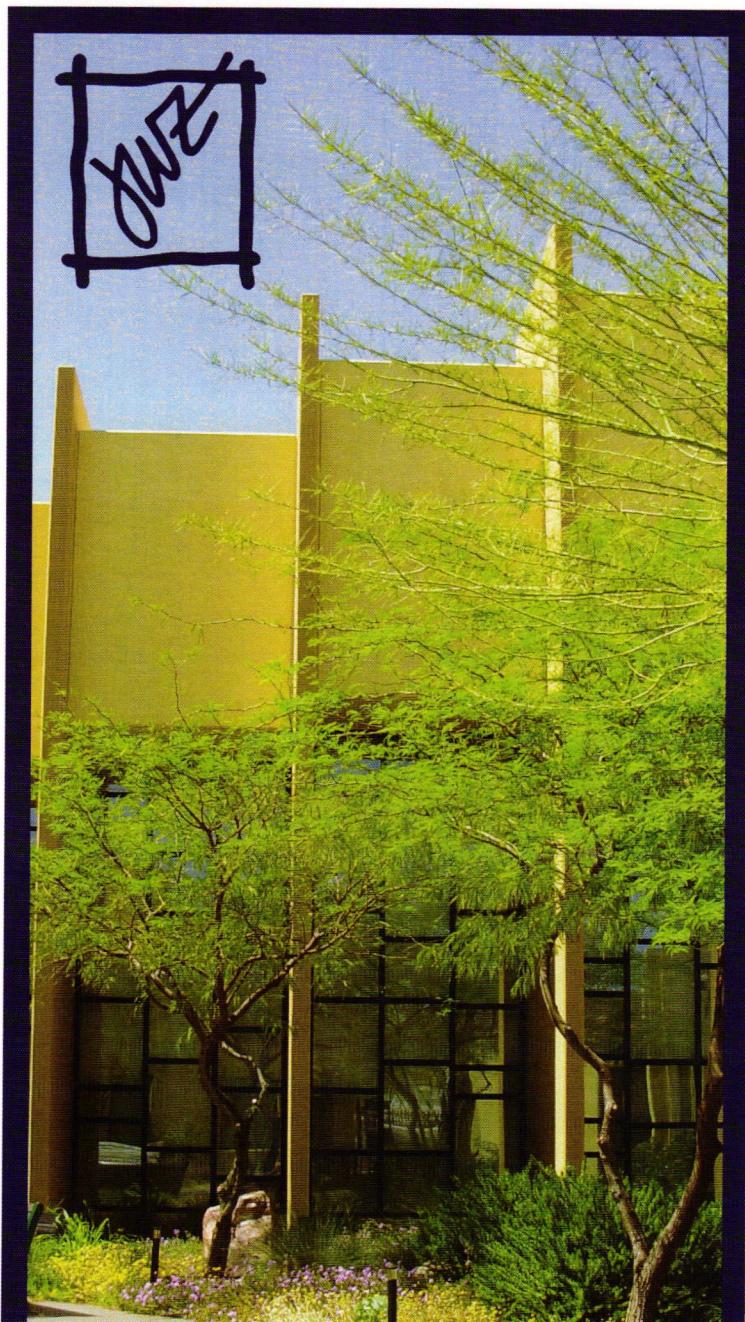
At the 2009 AIA Nevada Awards Gala held Saturday, September 19th, we honored two very special individuals with the AIA Nevada Livable Community Award.

In recognition of his untiring efforts to enact legislation to protect and enhance the quality of life for all citizens and with deep appreciation for his vision and his advocacy on behalf of renewable energy in creating a stronger, more sustainable and livable Nevada, we were pleased to present the Livable Community Award to Senator Steven A. Horsford.



We were also pleased to present the AIA Nevada Livable Community Award to A.C. "Stoney" Douglas in recognition of his personal dedication to preserving the history and the cultural significance of the Historic Fifth Street School and with deep appreciation for his commitment to the adaptive re-use of this wonderful structure.





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## 2009 aia nevada excellence in design award winners

### interior architecture merit

unicaHOME

ASSEMBLAGESTUDIO



### architecture award citation

Cashman  
Equipment

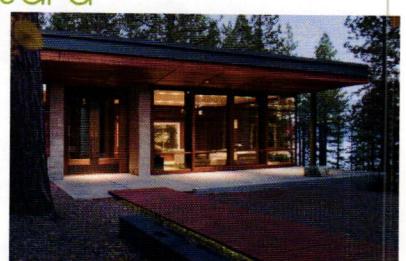
SHARCHITECTURE



### architecture award merit

Private Retreat  
and Guest  
Residence

RODERICK ASHLEY  
ARCHITECT



### architecture award merit

Salvation Army  
Hope Chapel

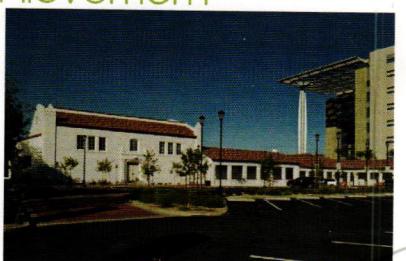
JVC ARCHITECTS



### collaborative achievement merit

Historic 5th  
Street School  
Renovation

KGA ARCHITECTURE



# THE STATE

## AIA NEVADA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CURT CARLSON, AIA, LEED AP

Last month I had an impromptu (unplanned) vacation to Idaho. It was a four day white water rafting trip on the Middle Fork of the Salmon River with 10 high school friends. I planned an extra day on the way in to spend some time in Boise since I had never been there before. To put it mildly, I was a little shocked by the city – and I don't mean shocked in the way that most people react to Las Vegas.

I stayed in a hotel in downtown about three blocks from the capital in what was pretty much the Central Business District. The minute

I walked out of the hotel I felt like I was in a City. Within two blocks I was in the middle of the Capital City Public Market – a farmer's market/art fair/street festival – that runs every Saturday and stretches for about 6 blocks through downtown. The booths were packed in on both sides of the streets and behind them were sidewalk café's, galleries, shops, coffee houses, restaurants and people - lots and lots of people. Beyond that was a (nicely) renovated warehouse district with more restaurants, shops, galleries – and people – lots and lots of people. By 2:30 everything was cleaned up and the streets were reopened and I think everyone went for a bike ride, a float down the river or an afternoon nap (to get prepared for Saturday night). By sundown the streets in the historic district were filled again with people migrating from the restaurants, jazz clubs and coffee houses to the bars and clubs. Someone told me that the weekly "Alive After Five" – a free summer concert series every Wednesday night – gathered 15,000 people that week. I looked at the calendar of events for Boise and there was pretty much something planned every night. Boise.org lists First Thursday, Alive after Five (Wednesday), Capital City Public Market (Saturday) along with eleven museums, and fifteen cultural venues (ranging from the ballet and philharmonic to contemporary theater groups).

By contrast, there were five booths at the last Farmer's Market in downtown Las Vegas. First Friday has become a collection of so-so galleries spaced out a block away from each other (where you have to dodge traffic to get across Charleston) and most of the venues seem to be for kids, homeless or emo's. Our museums are closing and our ballet and philharmonic are....still here. Although, we do have the annual San Gennaro Feast and the Greek Festival.

Of course all of this got me thinking as to what makes a city like Boise feel and act more like a city than Las Vegas. I started looking at the numbers to try to figure this out.

	Las Vegas	Boise
Population City	560,000	206,000
Surrounding	2,000,000	500,000
Median income	\$ 54,357	\$ 48,545
Median House Value	\$307,900	\$220,000
High School Education (or higher)	78.5%	91.1%
Higher Education	UNLV- 28,000	Boise State -19,667



None of the numbers seemed to make any sense other than the percentage of residents with a high school education (or higher) and the disproportionate house values. If anything, Las Vegas should be a more vibrant and active city because of sheer population numbers and density. Don't play the temperature card – it was over 100 and 40% relative humidity the day I was in Boise.

As professionals in the area, we have struggled for some time as to how to create a livable/sustainable city in Las Vegas. Typically we have fallen back on traditional planning and design concepts to promote identity, interaction and community. We have looked at Architecture and Urban Planning to be the answers to the woes of cities. We can make them look beautiful and they can be functional, but none of it works without participation. If a city's general populace, residents and visitors don't participate, the architecture and planning are simply empty buildings and empty spaces. Architecture alone is not going to revive Las Vegas as a city – we need to engage the residents and visitors. As much as I hate to admit it – it's not the buildings that make a "city" - it's the people and the interaction of the people. We are making inroads into this and it's not going to happen over night. We can keep providing enjoyable spaces, but at the same time we need to think beyond the boundaries of architecture and look at the use and the interaction they can foster. When we can fill the spaces and places we create with active people – we will have a city.

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## 2009 CONTINUING EDUCATION LUNCHEON SCHEDULE

Thursday, October 8 – Hosted by Dan Marks of Stego Industries, Inc. – Memphis BBQ – “Vapor Barriers: Nuisance or Necessity?”

Thursday, October 29 – Hosted by Scott Henderson of Demilec USA – Location TBA - “Designing with SPF”

Thursday, November 12 – Hosted by Kathy Kaiser of Schirmer Engineering – Location TBA - “2009 Model Code Update”

Thursday, December 10 – Hosted by Michael Gentille of Phillip Chun – Memphis BBQ – “Current & Pending Changes to Accessibility Design Provisions in Southern Nevada”

## AIA WESTERN MOUNTAIN REGION CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY THE 2009 CONFERENCE LEGACY LEARNING LEADERSHIP



**October 15-17, 2009**  
**Keystone Resort & Conference Center, Keystone, CO**

The conference will kick-off with the Practice Management

Symposium on Thursday, Oct. 15, providing attendees with practical tools to improve their everyday businesses. This year's program is a must-attend for emerging design and human resources professionals, small business owners and sole practitioners.

Do not miss the opportunity to network with colleagues, have some fun and earn continuing education credits!

## KLAI JUBA LECTURES

All lectures take place at the 5th Street School Auditorium. Reception 6:30 PM; Lecture 7:00 PM

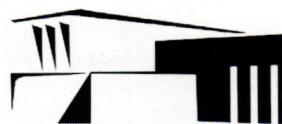
**Oct 21- DAVID SINGER**, Principal, **ARCLIGHT DESIGN**  
 Jointly sponsored with AIA Las Vegas

**Nov 4 - AARON BETSKY**, Director, **CINCINNATI ART MUSEUM** and former Director, **NETHERLANDS ARCHITECTURE INSTITUTE**  
 Opening lecture of Las Vegas Book Festival, jointly sponsored by AIA Las Vegas and City of Las Vegas Dept. of Cultural Affairs

**Nov 18 - LAURA MCCANNA**, Environmental Graphic Designer and Project Manager, **KIKU OBATA & COMPANY**  
 Jointly sponsored with AIA Las Vegas

## KLAI JUBA NIGHT @ THE MOVIES

**Oct. 14 - "PLAYTIME"** 1967  
 Director: Jacques Tati Introducing by: TBA  
 5:30 PM in the UNLV School of Architecture Lecture Room



## ARCHITECTURE STUDIES LIBRARY

**EXHIBITS:** Come by to see the 3rd Annual Student Art Exhibit in the Architecture Studies Library. This year for the first time students in art have been invited to participate.

**NEW STAFF:** Rebecca Nugent joins the staff of the Architecture Studies Library. She comes to us from Indiana, but already is feeling at home!

### NEW BOOKS:

**ARCHITECTURAL MANAGEMENT : INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND PRACTICE** / edited by Stephen Emmitt, Matthijs Prins, Ad den Otter. Chichester, U.K. ; Ames, Iowa : Wiley-Blackwell, 2009  
**Indispensable eyesores : an anthropology of undesired buildings** / Melanie van der Hoorn. New York : Berghahn Books, 2009

**DIGITAL FABRICATIONS : ARCHITECTURAL AND MATERIAL TECHNIQUES** / Lisa Iwamoto. New York : Princeton Architectural Press, c2009

**SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION AND DESIGN** / M. Regina Leffers. Upper Saddle River, NJ : Pearson Education/Prentice Hall, c2010

**PTL EXAM PREP : EXAM STUDY GUIDE BASED ON THE LEADERSHIP IN ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (LEED) GREEN ASSOCIATE EXAM : PTL EXAM PREP**, c2009

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## ARCHITECTURE LAS VEGAS MAGAZINE AND AIA MEMBER FIRMS HONORED WITH AIGA AWARDS



On Saturday, September 12 at the Historic Fifth Street School, the American Institute of Graphic Artists held their awards program, marking their 10th Anniversary. The Las Vegas Office of Cultural Affairs and AIA Las Vegas hosted the event.

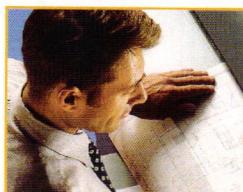
AIA Las Vegas' annual publication, Architecture Las Vegas, won two silver awards. One in the category of Typography and another for Editorial & Book Design. Congratulations to **DEBRA HEISER**, Art Director and **PHIL HAGEN**, Editor for this recognition.

Gold winners included an electronic holiday card designed by **CANYON CREATIVE** for **SH ARCHITECTURE** depicting the company staff singing about a low-flow showerhead.

Best of Show: Interactive went to Aptusarchitecture.com, a website design submitted by **CANYON CREATIVE**. Congratulations to **BRANDON SPRAGUE, AIA**, of **APTUS ARCHITECTURE** for this high honor.



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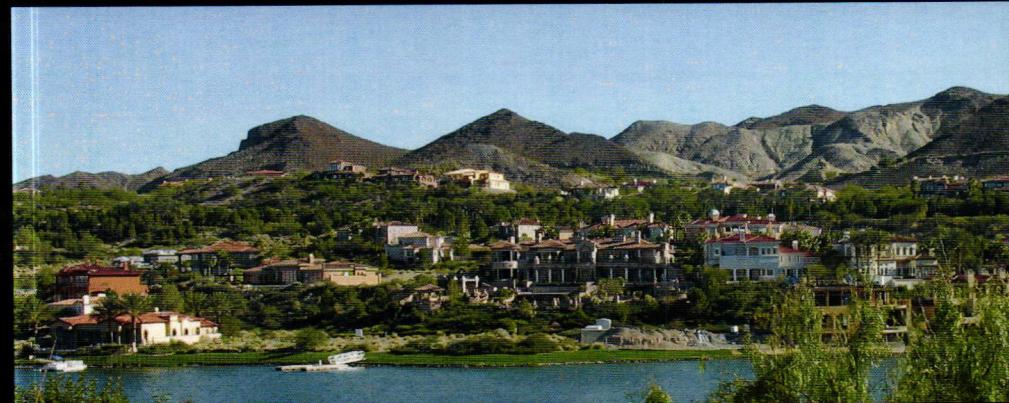
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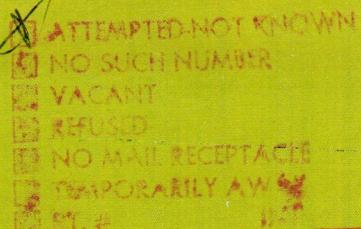
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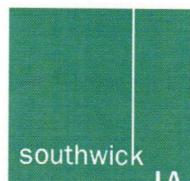
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OCT 8

Continuing Education Luncheon  
- Hosted by Dan Marks of Stego Industries, Inc. "Vapor Barriers: Nuisance or Necessity?"

13  
AIA LV Board Meeting

15-17  
WMR Conference  
Keystone, CO

21  
Membership Meeting - David Singer,  
Principal, ArcLight Design  
Joint event w/ Klai Juba Lecture Series

22  
AIA NV Ex Com Meeting

23  
AIALV + NASLA  
ine Tasting and Art Auction  
:00PM - Auditorium of the  
Historic Fifth Street School

29  
Continuing Education Luncheon -  
Hosted by Scott Henderson of Demilec USA "Designing with SPF"

NOV 4

"The Art of Presentation" by Aaron Betsky at the Vegas Valley Book Festival- Historic 5th Street School

10  
AIA LV Board Meeting

12  
Continuing Education Luncheon -  
Hosted by Kathy Kaiser of Schirmer Engineering "2009 Model Code Update"

18  
Membership Meeting - Laura McCanna, Environmental Graphic Designer and Project Manager, Kiku Obata & Company  
Joint event w/ Klai Juba Lecture Series

DEC 8

AIA LV Board Meeting

10  
Continuing Education Luncheon -  
Hosted by Michael Gentille of Phillip Chun "Current & Pending Changes to Accessibility Design Provisions in Southern Nevada"

16  
Holiday End-of-Year Celebration

17  
AIA NV Ex Com Meeting

Dec 20 - Jan 4  
AIA Las Vegas Office Closed